

ABSTRACT

A telecommunications system, such as a cellular telephone system, comprises at least one primary station and a plurality of secondary stations, which are able to communicate with each other in accordance with any suitable protocol embedded as software in the respective stations. Software configuration or reconfiguration in the secondary stations is effected over the air using a transmitter other than the one in the primary station. This transmitter may be a broadcast transmitter having spare capacity, which can be used for purposes other than broadcasting.